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SECURITY INFORMATION

CE NTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

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East Germany

Press Directives of the SED Central Committee

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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Directives given by the SED central committee to the editors-in-chief of East German newspapers for the period from 28 December 1952 to 3 January 1953 indicated.

- a. The discussion of the Stalin interview was to be continued as this interview climaxed one year of Soviet peace policy; it further showed that large groups of vestern politicians were willing to embark upon the Soviet course of peace and understanding and that serious moral defeat would thus be inflicted on all warmongers who haid to avoid a definite stand.
- b. The cessation of hostilities in Korea was to be given special display as the Soviet proposals made an immediate armistice possible and coincided with the true interests of the Korean people.
- c. China, the strength of the Chinese economy, and the Soviet economic aid to China was to e given special attention, especially as the people's government in China would have to make decisions of highest importance in 1953.
- d. The work of the labor unions as the most important instrument of the party was to be emphasized, particularly because their activity was almost discontinued in the heavy industries, and numerous comrades shuaned this activity as a result of the opposition they encountered.
- e. Further increase in production and trusteeship for the enterprises of reductant employers was to be demanded with due consideration for the mood of those laborers who were influenced by higher wages in small private interprises.
- f. Intensified vigilance was to be cal'ed for in view of recent reports on acts of sabotage in newly established productive corporations.
- g. Agricultural work and specifically the recruiting campaign of the Volkspolizei in the country was to be given support, since many agricultural workers attempted to shirk Volkspolizei service by seeking employment in strategic industries.

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h. No dispatches were to be carried on Volkspolizei volunteer specialists, as a government declaration on this group would be made in January.

Comment. This information confirms that the labor unions in East Germany did not come up to official expectations and, in a number of cases, had to retreat because of opposition by the laborers. It is believed that they will therefore probably also be affected by the looming purges.

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